



Frequently Asked Questions

Non-Practicing Status Policy

This companion document is intended to provide physicians with general advice to support their understanding of the expectations set out in a College Standard of Practice.

This document may be edited or updated for clarity at any time. Please refer back to the document regularly to ensure you are aware of the most recent advice.

What is “Non-Practicing” status?

If you hold “Non-Practicing” status, your licence has been restricted by the College and you cannot practice medicine in any capacity. You cannot provide care for patients, including writing prescriptions, ordering investigations, or completing medical reports. You also cannot bill MCP, patients, or third-party payment providers for your services as a physician (with the exception of submitting bills for services provided while the licence status was “Practicing”).

What am I permitted to do while “Non-Practicing”?

Physicians holding “Non-Practicing” status are only permitted to engage in non-clinical activities. This includes activities such as medical education (e.g. presentations or simulations with standardized patients), research, and administrative roles.

How do I apply for “Non-Practicing” status?

You must submit a *Non-Practicing Status Application* to the College. This application can be requested from the College by contacting licensing@cpsnl.ca. A member of the College’s Licensing team will provide the application and applicable administrative fee form, which must be submitted prior to the review of the application. Once the application and applicable fees are received and accepted by the College, you will receive notification that your “Non-Practicing” status request has been approved.

What is the fee for the *Non-Practicing Status Application*?

The fee for the *Non-Practicing Status Application* is included on the current fee schedule and can be found [here](#).

Can I receive a refund of my Annual Licence fee if I am “Non-Practicing” for an extended period of time?

Yes, the College may refund a portion of your Annual Licence fee should you satisfy the criteria in the [Annual Licence Fees Refund Policy](#).

How much notice do I need to provide when requesting “Non-Practicing” status?

Your *Non-Practicing Status Application* must be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to pausing your professional liability coverage to allow the College time to process the request. For more information, please see our [FAQ](#) on the Requirement for Professional Liability Coverage.

How do I return to “Practicing” status?

You may submit a request via email to licensing@cpsnl.ca to return to active “Practicing” status. Proof of professional liability coverage must be submitted with the request. All other applicable licensing criteria must also be satisfied to return to “Practicing” status. Should you have any questions about the licensing criteria for returning to “Practicing” status, please contact the College to discuss your particular circumstance.

There is no administrative fee for returning to “Practicing” Status.

How much notice do I need to provide when requesting to return to “Practicing” status?

The College must be notified in writing at least two (2) weeks prior to your intended return to practice date to allow the College time to process the request.

What happens if I practice while my status is “Non-Practicing”?

It is considered professional misconduct to practice medicine in any capacity while your licence is restricted to “Non-Practicing” status. Practicing medicine while under this restriction may result in a Registrar’s allegation.

I still have questions. Who can help me?

Contact the College by [email](#). We will direct your inquiry to the appropriate person at our offices.

Document History

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